

By: Naishtat

H.B. No. 1626

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the eligibility of certain persons for the food stamp program.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 33, Human Resources Code, is amended by adding Sections 33.030 and 33.031 to read as follows:

Sec. 33.030. WAIVER FROM FOOD STAMP TIME LIMITS FOR CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS. The executive commissioner shall seek a waiver under Section 6(o)(4)(A), Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. Section 2015(o)(4)(A)), to provide food stamp benefits to an individual who:

(1) is otherwise ineligible for food stamp benefits solely because of the application of Section 6(o)(2), Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. Section 2015(o)(2)); and

(2) resides in an area covered by the waiver.

Sec. 33.031. EXEMPTION FROM FOOD STAMP TIME LIMITS FOR COVERED INDIVIDUALS. (a) In this section, "covered individual" has the meaning assigned by Section 6(o)(6)(A)(ii), Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. Section 2015(o)(6)(A)(ii)).

(b) The executive commissioner by rule shall adopt criteria for providing exemptions from the time limits for food stamp benefits prescribed by Section 6(o)(2), Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. Section 2015(o)(2)), for covered individuals in accordance with Section 6(o)(6), Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7

1 U.S.C. Section 2015(o)(6).

2 SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date
3 of this Act, the executive commissioner of the Health and Human
4 Services Commission shall:

5 (1) apply for and actively pursue the waivers from the
6 appropriate federal agency required by Section 33.030, Human
7 Resources Code, as added by this Act; and

8 (2) adopt the criteria required by Section 33.031,
9 Human Resources Code, as added by this Act.

10 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.